Teak Plantation

2493. SHRI NAGMANI:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total area covered under Teak Plantation in the country;

(b) whether Teak stocks in the country are declining sharply; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to protect as well as to increase the Teak Plantation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allocation of Industrial Gas to the States

2494. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down by the Central Government for the allotment of industrial gas to the States;

(b) whether all the States are being allotted industrial gas as per the criteria laid down therefor; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Allocations of natural gas are generally based on the Imputed Economic Value of Natural gas use subject to preference for the power and fertiliser sectors. Allocations are made to specific projects. No Statewise allocations are made.

Request for Changing the Name of Ahmedabad

2495. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced the change of name of 'Bombay' to 'Mumbai' fulfilling the long standing demand of the people of Maharashtra;

(b) whether Government of Gujarat has also forwarded a request for changing the name of Ahmedabad to Karanavati;

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise, in view of (b) above.

Additional Amount to be Spent by ONGC for Exploration Work

2496. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC proposes to spend an additional Rs. 400 crores in the Eighth Five Year Plan period for exploration work, if so, the details thereof;

(b) what are the details of areas in which deep water drilling will be conducted and at what cost and what progress has so far been made in this regard; and

(c) what is the outlay of Eighth Plan and what is the estimated outlay of Ninth Plan and how much money from the Eighth Plan outlay is likely to be carried to the Ninth Plan and the reasons there-for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) As part of Accelerated Programme of Exploration (APEX) formulated in 1994-95, an additional amount of Rs. 3958 crores has been approved for investment by ONGC during 1994—97 to enhance the exploration activities in existing as well as frontier areas, including deep waters.

(b) Technologically amenable deep water areas of less than 1000 metres